

Daughter of China

1. Why did Chai Ling's father react so strongly when Ling was homesick and would not stay with the foster family? What lesson did Chai Ling learn from this?
2. What did it mean for Chai Ling to be "taught with the eyes"? Describe a similar experience from your own life.
3. Why was Chai Ling so drawn to Mrs. Qian? Who has been a "Mrs. Qian" in your life?
4. How does Chai Ling view *respect*? How did she see it practiced around her? How did it affect Chai Ling when she felt she had lost the respect of others?
5. How did Chai Ling's view of the Chinese government change as she grew up? What caused her views to change?
6. Why did Chai Ling resist her father's wishes when he wanted her to join the Communist Youth League? What would you have done in her situation?



Tiananmen Square, 1989

1. Why did the students first gather at Tiananmen Square?
2. Did you witness the media coverage of Tiananmen Square in 1989? What do you remember most? How were you affected by it?
3. What happened at the funeral for Hu Yaobang that incited the students' anger? How would you have felt in that situation?
4. What were the students trying to accomplish with their protests? Do you think their goals were reasonable, or did they expect too much? Why?
5. What effect did the government's *dong luan* verdict have on the protests?
6. How did Chai Ling rise to such prominence in the student movement? Do you think her way of communicating would be effective in any culture?
7. What disputes and issues did the leaders of the protests have to work through? What did they handle well? What did they not handle well? How did these issues affect their goals?
8. Do you think the hunger strike was an effective way for the students to protest? Why or why not?
9. The student protesters felt they were protesting on behalf of the Chinese people. How did the Beijing community show its support for the students?
10. What happened to make Chai Ling feel that her actions at Tiananmen had been misunderstood? How were her words taken out of context? How would you feel if you gave up everything for a cause and then found your motives and actions had been wrongly interpreted? What would it take for you to be able to trust, love, and sacrifice again?



11. Is there any cause you love and believe in enough to give your life for? Is there anyone you could count on to sacrifice everything out of love for you?

Farewell to Beijing

1. What emotions did Chai Ling feel as she fled Beijing? In her situation, what would you find hardest to leave behind?
2. Why did Big Brother help Chai Ling and Feng escape? How did his words and actions draw Chai Ling to Buddhism?
3. What are some of the basic principles of Buddhism described in this book? What does Buddhism have in common with Christianity? What is fundamentally different?
4. How did Feng choose to express his new freedom? Do you agree with his actions? Why or why not?
5. What difficulties did Chai Ling encounter because she was a symbol of the Chinese democracy movement?

The American Dream Meets Chinese Reality

1. What were some of the challenges Chai Ling faced in starting a new life in America?
2. Why did Chai Ling have such a difficult time finding a job? Do you think that the companies' hesitation was justified? Why or why not?
3. When Chai Ling was hired by the consulting company, do you think the conditions of anonymity they expected were fair? Why or why not?
4. How did the American media treat Chai Ling? What impression did this give her of America's free media? How does her experience affect your own view of the media?
5. How did Chai Ling finally succeed in America? Do you think her background was more of a help or a hindrance? Why?

Freedom Calling

1. What caused Chai Ling to seek God?
2. What fears and misconceptions did Chai Ling have about God?
3. What was Chai Ling's experience after she became a Jesus-follower?
4. What prompted Chai Ling to make China's forced abortion policies her next injustice to fight?
5. How does Chai Ling's account of her abortions affect your view of her story?
6. What are some parallels you see between Chai Ling's life and stories from the Bible (e.g., Moses, Esther, Gideon)? What biblical parallels do you see in your own life? How does this affect your faith in God?



7. What does Chai Ling say is the precondition for democracy in China? How would this bring freedom to China?

Now that you've read *A Heart for Freedom*...

1. What are three things you will take away from reading *A Heart for Freedom*?
2. Have you been inspired to take action? What can you do?
3. Do you know anyone else who would benefit from reading *A Heart for Freedom*? What would you say in recommending this book?



